

Message Text

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NEA - MR. SOBER (SUBST)

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY KUWAIT IMMEDIATE

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 192371

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS:ENRG, KU, SA

SUBJECT:POSSIBLE NATIONALIZATION OF KUWAIT OIL COMPANY

1. IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH COMPANIES ON FUTURE OF ARAMCO YAMANI IS DEMANDING COMPANIES YIELD 100 PERCENT EQUITY INTEREST IMMEDIATELY. HE IS ARGUING THAT SUCH A COURSE WOULD BE MORE BENEFICIAL TO COMPANIES (FOR REASONS AS YET UNCLEAR) THAN NATIONALIZATION OF ARAMCO WHICH WOULD FOLLOW NATIONALIZATION OF KUWAIT OIL COMPANY WHICH YAMANI ARGUES CERTAIN TO OCCUR BEFORE END OF 1974.

2. WHILE RECOGNIZING HAZARDS OF ANY PREDICTION IN THIS REGARD REQUEST YOUR LATEST ESTIMATE OF LIKELIHOOD ANY MOVE BY GOK TO NATIONALIZE KUWAIT OIL COMPANY.

3. CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICERS ARAMCO PARENTS ARE MEETING SEPTEMBER 3 TO DECIDE ON NEXT STEPS. WOULD THEREFORE APPRECIATE REPORT PRIOR OPENING BUSINESS WASHINGTON TIME SEPTEMBER 3. KISSINGER

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